ANNUAL REPORT
2020

Where RELATIONSHIPS Grow
Dear Friends,

Leading the organization of Colorado Youth Outdoors continues to be a true privilege and a responsibility I enjoy. I am grateful for all the support this organization receives in time, talent and treasure. As an audience of this annual report, you most likely have served the organization in some fashion and for that we are most thankful. The CYO family continues to grow in all directions including board leadership, staff, volunteers, donors and most importantly, our participants.

Our PACD model (Participate, Appreciate, Communicate, Dedicate) has proven to be significant in the mission of relationship building in programs both deep and wide. Depth in CYO Core and Summer Camp programming and width serving the numerous community nonprofits who ask to augment their day programs with PACD.

Year 2020 has a special place holder in the history books for CYO as it will for most everyone. The COVID pandemic will be spoken about for years to come. Our story for 2020 certainly had its unique challenges, however the year unfolded as one of our busiest years on record with much to celebrate. While we were fortunate to thrive, we fully respect the significant challenges many of our peer organizations experienced and we hope to continue to find ways to assist in their program needs.

A couple of highlights of 2020 that you might want to learn more about in this report:

• Our expansion of our summer programs
• A year without our largest fundraiser “The Maverick”
• The launch of Winter Wonderland
• CYO planning to celebrate 20–years of building healthy relationships

As you find your favorite section to read in our annual report, I hope that you would be reminded of your involvement and see the significant returns on your investments.

Thank you for taking the time to review Colorado Youth Outdoors year in review for 2020.

BOB HEWSON
PRESIDENT AND CEO
In 2007 Colorado Youth Outdoors was gifted the Swift Ponds property by the Swift Family, in memory of their father’s dream, in order to continue to share the beautiful 240-acre property with the community of Northern Colorado.

The campus houses 12 stocked fishing ponds, a five-house trap range, a half-mile archery range, 50-acres of agriculture, moist soil and pollinator managed units, an outdoor pavilion and an 8,500 square-foot education facility. This facility is ideal for meeting our mission of building relationships through traditional outdoor recreation.

Many of our CYO participants hold Swift Ponds near to their hearts as a “place of solace” and “a home where all my worries wash away”. We hear often that the moment participants pass through our gates, they are “transported away from the troubles of daily life and into a special environment where nature and

CHRIS WOODWARD
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS
With a mission to build relationships through traditional outdoor recreation, we believe time invested at CYO is time well spent!

Our PACD model is the pillar process we use to cultivate relationships across all curriculum and programs. Participate. Appreciate. Communicate. Dedicate.

**CORE**

**ADULT WITH YOUTH**

SPRING, SUMMER, FALL SEMESTERS

Created for parents/mentors and teens/pre-teens to build their relationship while learning traditional outdoor activities. We call these activities Ventures. Ventures included in CORE are fly tying, small bore, shotgun, camp survival, archery, spin fishing and fly fishing.

**YOUTH PEER-TO-PEER**

**WEEK-LONG DAY CAMPS, SUMMER**

For youth boys and girls, 4th–10th grade. Activities include archery, spin fishing, fly fishing, fly tying, shooting sports, canoeing, and camp survival.

**Train the Leaders**

**ADULTS**

SPRING AND FALL SEMESTERS

AT CYO, we hope to provide only the very best instruction and interaction. We continuously look for candidates for our Train the Leader program that are truly invested in the advancement of others. We provide an opportunity for those individuals to become part time Pro Staff Instructors via a semester long mentorship and training on our PACD principles and the curriculum taught at CYO. Upon completion of the training, our Pro Staff Instructors become the guide for our participants unique experiences at CYO.
ADULT PEER-TO-PEER | Corporate Relationships

In addition to the large number of corporate groups who volunteer, many notable groups have begun participating in Corporate Relationship Building programs. We have discovered that the mission of CYO and the curriculum used in our CORE programs creates the same effect when applied to adults in a peer-to-peer, team environments! These “big kids” are creating lasting memories through our PACD model, traditional recreation, and our premier setting, building relationships along the way.

YOUTH PEER-TO-PEER | Partner Programs

Our Partner Programs are a pinnacle offering to our community. Colorado Youth Outdoors serves more than 40 other non-profit partners every year. During 2020, that number declined, yet... the participation and enthusiasm of those groups able to visit CYO was as memorable as previous years and potentially more impactful than in previous contexts.

PARTNER PROGRAMS 2020

3 Hopeful Hearts
Boy Scouts of America
Boys and Girls Clubs of Larimer County
Boys and Girls Clubs of Weld County
Centennial BOCES
City of Fort Collins - Roots
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
Colorado State University
Cooper Home
Fellowship of Christian Athletes
Fossil Ridge High School
Girl Scouts of America
Grace Place - Kids
Grace Upon Grace
Greeley Central High School
Larimer County 4H
Larimer County Sheriff’s Department
Larimer Department of Natural Resources
Mayfly Project (NoCo)
Mead High School
Mission I'mPossible
Otterbox
Outdoor Buddies
Poudre School District
Respite Care
Resurrection Christian Middle School
River Deep Foundation
Rocky Mountain High School
Royal Family Kids of Northern Colorado
Royal Family Kids of Weld County
Thompson School District
Weld County Youth Conservation Corps
Weld District 6
Windsor High School
Young Men’s Service League
BECAUSE OF YOU, OUR DONORS
“Colorado Youth Outdoors is my charity of choice because I feel like every kid should have the opportunity to learn how to fish, shoot archery and shoot shotguns. I went through the program six years ago and it grew my relationship with my mom through outdoor recreation. I see what the organization is about-growing relationships through the outdoors. I always want to help kids have a great relationship with their parents.”

BRENDAN O’KEEFE
ROOFSOURCE

“When I first learned about CYO I was instantly attracted to their mission, as traditional outdoor recreation made such an impact on my childhood. I wanted to support CYO by purchasing a legacy stone and have it be a representation of all the memories I still cherish today from spending time with my loved ones in the outdoors.”

SUMMER (ERION) SCOTT
ERION FAMILY FOUNDATION

“The Erion Family Foundation has supported Colorado Youth Outdoors for several campaigns and programs. In 2020 we were proud to be the Title Sponsor of CYO’s new community event, NOCO Winter Wonderland light display. Our past investments in CYO have proved to be impactful for northern Colorado and we are excited to watch our support continue to grow healthy relationships in our communities.”

SUMMER (ERION) SCOTT
ERION FAMILY FOUNDATION

AARON SWETS
PARTICIPANT CLASS 2014-15
**Revenue**

**TOTAL REVENUE: $1,254,981**

Colorado Youth Outdoors revenue strategy has a long history of being led by its fundraising events including individual giving in the Big Gift event. Grants, Program Fees round out CYO’s revenue generation. Unique in 2020 was the sale of 13 acres to Colorado Department of Transportation for the I-25 widening project listed as asset sales.

**Expenses**

Colorado Youth Outdoors continues to work hard to insure the majority of our expenditures are focused on programming. While our organization has significant needs associated to our campus and creation/facilitation of events, much of these costs are kept to a minimum using volunteer efforts saving tens of thousands of dollars such that it can be used in programming.

**Endowment and Reserve Accounts**

In 2018, CYO’s Board of Trustee’s defined goals for both endowment and reserve fund accounts. The endowment account is attached to the needs of the campus while a fully funded reserve account would support six months of operations. In 2020, the endowment account begins with $55,000 and the reserve account was funded to near completion at $250,000 just shy of its goal $300,000. Efforts to ramp up fundraising efforts for the endowment will be planned for future years.

**CHRISTIAN BORDEWICK**

FINANCE COMMITTEE, CYO BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Investing in time well spent and building relationships extends to our fundraisers. We rely on your participation in these events to serve the community each year.

**SPORTING CLAY SHOOT**
Join us at our premiere sporting clays tournament that is held at Sylvan Dale Guest Ranch each May.

**BARN DANCE**
Come cut a rug and enjoy some delicious eats at our annual barn dance in September.

**CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT AND BREWFEST**
We offer two opportunities to throw bags and taste the local beverages, here at Swift Ponds, in June and October.

**DRIVE-THRU LIGHT EXPERIENCE**
NOCO’s most impressive holiday light experience! Don’t let December go by without joining us!

**END-OF-YEAR GIVING**
We are grateful for all donations, big and small, as we work towards our campaign goal each year!
Volunteers are a significant strength of CYO. Over 350 volunteers serving over 4,000 hours of needs.
I wanted to share my experience with CYO. I had never really heard about them until my son earned a field trip to CYO. After visiting and hearing about how CYO can add to our relationship. The summer of 2020, I put both of my children into the summer program. WOW!! They both came home full of smiles and stories. They had a wonderful time and are still so anxious and excited for summer 2021 camp.

Fall of 2020 I put Colton into the Wednesday CORE Program. When speaking with Chris Huff, about Wednesday nights being a little smaller sized in groups, we decided it would be a great fit. Colton can get a little overwhelmed and with his sensory issues and it was a perfect fit for him. We did archery, fishing, sporting clays, and other outdoor activities together which I, mom, was able to get over my fear of fish and clay shooting - amazing. Seeing the smile on Colton’s face when he hit his first clay actually brought tears to my eyes. Mostly because I wish his dad was doing this with him. Unfortunately, his dad passed away in 2017. I was needing new ways to bond with Colton and get him away from the house and video games. Having this program to look forward to was always so exciting. We didn’t fight and we talked all the way to CYO about our questions and what fun we were about to have. So, for our relationship, this really helped us to connect more, and I feel like having CYO in our life really enriched our family life.

Now as for the staff and volunteers at CYO. I can’t say enough about all of them. They are always so patient and took their time in working to understand/get to know Colton. I got to step back a little and watch them interact and it was all done with the love of what they all do at CYO. The group we had were so awesome. Chris loves what he does and shows it by putting together a wonderful team. Bri and Alexis were always there with a smile and ready to go. Jackson was very informative and really did a great job with our group. Thank you CYO for bringing my children, and myself, to a place to have fun and make so many memories.

Tary Mauk
Board of Trustees

Bob Hewson, President/CEO
Colorado Youth Outdoors

Linc Turner, Chairman
President, LPR Construction

AJ Macdonald, Vice Chairman
President, Macdonald Financial Services

Aaron Eide, Past Chair
Vice President, Flood and Peterson

Christian Bordewick, Treasurer
Market President, Bank of Colorado

Mark Knudson, Secretary
Store Leader, Scheels Johnstown

Jack Cantley
Retired Industry Executive, oil and gas

Jennifer Ford-Smith
Vice President of Sales, Johns Manville

Chuck Freitag
Retired Industry Executive, transportation

Susan Aldridge
Legal Counsel, Huwa Enterprises

Rick Tucker
Executive Vice President, Hensel Phelps

Holly Hutchinson-Osborn
VP and Director of Programming, Coach Training Alliance

Michael Blair
Managing Director, Deputy General Counsel, Prologis

Ben Galyardt
Owner, Functional Medicine Center of Fort Collins

Staff

L–R Chris Huff, Program Manager; Kory Bright, Relationship Administration; Chris Woodward, Director of Operations; and Bob Hewson, President.

Instructors

Alexis Jaques, Jackson Rhoads, Nich Robertson, Matt Walter, Michael Harris, Jason Godinez, Robb Harris, Aaron Wurster, Bri Aragon, Doug Sloat, Alyson Brehm, David Sanchez, Jay Adams, Zach Cooper, Rich Wastler, and Jeff Neumeyer.